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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/270,676	ABE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jefferey F Harold	2644	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed August 11, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 5-8.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 May 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
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DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. **Claims 5-8** are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding **claim 5**, the prior art of record failed to disclose or fairly suggest a hold control means for holding the first forwarding address telephone under communication with the one of the telephone whose communication partner is held by the transfer control means, to associated with a first common hold operation means as one of the plurality of common hold operations means in the one of the telephone, whose corresponding display means performs the display showing the "non hold state", making the corresponding display means corresponding to the first common hold operation means in the one of the telephones perform the display showing the "hold state" and allowing the one of the telephones to request for connection with a second forwarding address telephone, in accordance with the hold instruction accepted by the first common hold operation means, and hold release means for releasing the first forwarding address telephone held in association with the first common hold operation means, connecting the first forwarding address telephone thus released with the one of the telephones, and making the corresponding display means corresponding to the first common hold operation means in the one of the telephones perform the display showing the "no hold state" in accordance with the release instruction accepted by the first common hold operation means.

Regarding **claim 7**, the prior art of record failed to disclose or fairly suggest a transfer control means for holding a communication partner of one of the telephone under communication and allowing the one of the telephones to request for connection with a first forwarding address telephone, in accordance with the transfer instruction accepted by the transfer instruction means in the one of the telephones; hold control means for holding the first forwarding address telephone under communication with the one of the telephones whose communication partner is held by the transfer control means, to associate with a first common hold operation means as one of the plurality of common hold operation means in the one of the telephone whose corresponding display means performs the display showing the "no hold state", making the corresponding display means corresponding to the first common hold operation means in the one of the telephones perform the display showing the "hold state" and allowing the one of the telephones to request for connection with a second forwarding address telephone, in accordance with the hold instruction accepted by the first common hold operation means; and hold release means for releasing the first forwarding address telephone held in association with the first common hold operation means, connecting the first forwarding address telephone thus released with the one of the telephones, and making the corresponding display means corresponding to the first common hold operation means in the one of the telephones perform the display showing the "no hold state", in accordance with the release instruction accepted by the first common hold operation means, connecting the first forwarding address telephone thus released with one of the telephones, and making the corresponding display means corresponding to

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the first common hold operation means in the one of the telephones perform the display showing the "no hold state", in accordance with the release instruction accepted by the first common hold operation means.

Regarding **claim 8**, the prior art of record failed to disclose or fairly suggest a communication hold method consisting of a second step of holding the forwarding address telephone under communication with the telephone whose communication partner is held, to associate with a first common hold operation means as one of a plurality of common hold operation means of the one of the telephones, whose corresponding display means performs display showing a "no hold state", making the corresponding display means corresponding to the first common hold operation means of the one of the telephone perform display showing a "hold state", and allowing the telephone to request for connection with a second forwarding address telephone, in accordance with a hold instruction accepted by the first common hold operation means; and a third step of releasing the first forwarding address telephone held in association with first common hold operation means, connecting the first forwarding address telephone thus released with the one of the telephones, and making the corresponding display means corresponding to the first common hold operation means in the one of the telephones perform the display showing the "no hold state", in accordance with a release instruction accepted by the first common hold operation means, wherein the second step holds the first forwarding address telephone under communication by the hold instruction from the one of the telephones, even if the one of the telephones

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already has the communication partner under holding by the transfer instruction from the one of the telephones.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jefferey F Harold whose telephone number is 703-306-5836. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Forester W Isen can be reached on 703-305-4386. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jefferey F Harold
Examiner
Art Unit 2644


FORESTER W. ISEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

